GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:613 ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012 GUIDELINES FOR TOURIST ACTIVITIES Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Lingam Shri P.;Tagore Shri Manicka

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has formulated any fresh guidelines on tourist activities in core areas of tiger reserve forests in the country as per the directives of Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of the guidelines on tourist activities in such areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. A set of comprehensive guidelines, under section 38-O (1)(c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for Project Tiger and Tourism in tiger reserves, interalia, including regulated tourism in core and buffer areas, keeping in mind the ecological concerns relating to tiger and its habitat, has been framed and notified by the National Tiger Conservation Authority on 15th October, 2012, which is available in the public domain at www. projecttiger.nic.in.

(c) In the core areas of tiger reserves, non-consumptive tourist visitation has been allowed upto 20% of the area or present area under tourism, whichever is less, to minimize adverse impact, if any, on tiger conservation.